

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRETOR 04235 01 OF 02 191827Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
DHA-02 /079 W

-----104548 191855Z /43

O 191735Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8496

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 4235

DEPT PASS TO AMB MCHENRY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PROG, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF SAG ON NEW YORK CONTACT GROUP TALKS WITH
SWAPO

REF: USUN 2651, USUN 2619, USUN 2566,

THE FIVE AMBASSADORS MET AT 1600 TODAY, AUGUST 19, WITH
SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BRAND FOURIE TO BRIEF HIM
ON NEW YORK CONTACT GROUP'S TALKS AUGUST 8-11 WITH SWAPO.
THE FOLLOWING IS THEIR AGREED REPORT ON THE MEETING.

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BEGIN TEXT

1. BY THE TIME OUR FINAL INSTRUCTIONS ARRIVED, IT WAS
TOO LATE TO CATCH BOTHA BEFORE HE LEFT FOR CAPE TOWN.
INSTEAD, WE CALLED ON FOURIE AT 1600.

2. THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MEETING WAS RELAXED. THE
GERMAN AMBASSADOR ON BEHALF OF THE FIVE REVIEWED THE

MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE NON-PAPER, FOLLOWING WHICH HE PRESENTED ORALLY THE FULL TEXT OF THE TALKING POINTS.

3. AS THE NON-PAPER AND TALKING POINTS WERE REVIEWED, BRAND FOURIE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) IN PARAGRAPH 13 OF THE NON-PAPER FOURIE TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE LANGUAGE "THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT:" HE POINTED OUT THAT WHAT HAD BEEN AGREED BETWEEN THE FIVE AND SWAPO WAS NOT A MATTER IN WHICH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAD NECESSARILY CONCURRED.

(B) IN PARA 13(A) OF THE NON-PAPER FOURIE TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE STATEMENT THAT THE UN PRESENCE MUST BE INSTALLED IN THE TERRITORY "FROM THE OUTSET OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD." HE ARGUED THAT IN SOUTH AFRICAN EYES THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD HAD ALREADY BEGUN AND POINTED OUT THAT THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD HAD NEVER BEEN DEFINED.

(C) IN PARA 13(C) HE COMMENTED THAT THE USE OF THE WORD "ENSURE" WAS INCONSISTENT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WOULD "SATISFY HIMSELF."

(D) IN PARA (E) OF THE TALKING POINTS FOURIE REACTED TO THE REFERENCE TO MILITARY PERSONNEL BY INQUIRING WHETHER THEY WOULD BE IN UNIFORM. HE ADDED THAT "YOU WON'T GET VERY FAR WITH THIS ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN SIDE."
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(E) IN PARA (J) OF THE TALKING POINTS FOURIE ASKED WHAT EVIDENCE WE HAD FOR SAYING THAT SOUTH AFRICA WAS PROVIDING OPEN SUPPORT TO TURNHALLE REPRESENTATIVES. WHEN WE GAVE AS AN EXAMPLE NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT HAD CARRIED TURNHALLE DELEGATES TO OVAMBO TO CAMPAIGN THERE, HE DID NOT DENY IT AND SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO INQUIRE. FOURIE INDICATED THAT THE SAG HAD MADE CLEAR THAT EACH GROUP MUST DO ITS CAMPAIGNING ON ITS OWN RESOURCES. FOURIE ALSO REFERRED TO A DOCUMENT GIVEN TO SWAPO BY A MAGISTRATE TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY WERE FREE TO START POLITICAL ACTIVITY AS SOON AS THEY HAD AGREED TO PARTICIPATE PEACEFULLY AND TO DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM VIOLENCE. HE PROMISED TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THE MAGISTRATE'S COMMUNICATION. HE ALSO TRIED TO PARRY OUR ARGUMENT BY SAYING THAT UNITED NATIONS BROADCASTS IN FAVOR OF SWAPO WERE BEING BEAMED INTO NAMIBIA FROM ANGOLA.

4. DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING FOURIE CONFIRMED THAT TODAY THE SAG HAD GAZETTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL, THE DESIGNATION OF JUDGE STEYN, AND THE DUTIES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL.

THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR SPECIFIES THAT IT
WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 1. THE TEXT OF THE
PROCLAMATIONS FOLLOW IN A SEPARATE TELEGRAM (PRETORIA 4234).

5. FOURIE EXPLAINED THAT WHILE IN LONDON BOTHA AND
HE HAD PROMISED THAT ON RETURN TO PRETORIA THEY WOULD
TRY TO PERSUADE THE PRIME MINISTER TO AGREE TO POSTPONE
THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL TO A DATE
LATER THAN AUGUST 22. THEY HAD INDEED TRIED TO DO
THIS BUTH BOTHA WAS NOT ABLE TO PERSUADE THE PRIME MINISTER
TO DEFER THE APPOINTMENT BEYOND SEPTEMBER 1.

6. AS THE MEETING ENDED, FOURIE OBSERVED THAT HE DID
NOT WANT TO COMMENT ON THE FORCES WITHDRAWAL QUESTION.
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HE NOTED THAT THE SWAPO CAMPS WERE FROM 1-3 KMS. FROM
THE BORDER WHILE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES WOULD
PLACE THEM FAR FROM THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS. HE DID NOT
RULE OUT, HOWEVER, FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER IN TERMS
OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CEASE-FIRE. END TEXT.

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8497
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PRETORIA 4235

DEPT PASS TO AMB MCHENRY

7. COMMENT: FOURIE'S ATTITUDE THROUGHOUT THE MEETING WAS THAT HE WELCOMED THE BRIEFING AND WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE INFORMATION PROVIDED. HE WANTED TO CONSULT ABOUT THE POINTS WITH OTHERS. MEANWHILE, HIS SILENCE ON MOST OF THE PRESENTATION SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS CONSENT.
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